

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/696,312
Attorney Docket No.: Q78246

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, a typographical error in claim 4 has been corrected. That is, the Arabic number "1" at line 3 of claim 4 has been corrected to be a Roman numeral "I."

In addition, claim 6 has been corrected to depend from claim 4, rather than from claim 1.

No new matter has been added and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 are pending.

In Paragraph No. 1 of the Action, claims 4 and 6 are objected to as being of improper dependent form for allegedly failing to limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

The Examiner states that claim 6 is objected because claim 1 does not have Formula "I", but only Formula "1".

The Examiner states that claim 4 should have Formula "I" not Formula "1".

Claims 4 and 6 have been corrected as discussed above.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the objection to claims 4 and 6.

In Paragraph No. 3 of the Action, claims 1-3, 5 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Kuwabara, U.S. Patent No. 6,775,059.

Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn because Kuwabara '059 is not prior art with respect to the present claims.

Kuwabara has a §102(e) date of December 27, 2001, which is later in time than Applicants' priority dates of May 1, 2001 and May 15, 2001 for their priority documents JP 2001-134523 and JP 2001-145602, respectively.

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To perfect their claim to priority and remove Kuwabara as prior art, Applicants submit herewith verified English translations of their priority documents.

Section 112 support for the present claims in the priority documents is as shown in the following chart:

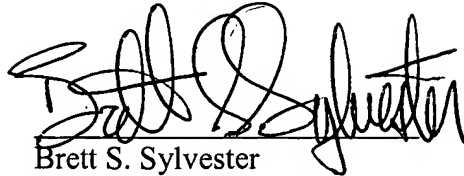
Present Claim	JP 2001-134523	JP 2001-145602
1	Claim 1, page 1	
2		Claim 1, page 1
3	Claim 2, page 1	
4	Claim 3, page 2	
5	Claim 4, page 2	
6	Claim 5, page 2	
7		Claim 3, pages 1-2
8		Claim 4, page 2
9		Claim 5, pages 2-3
10		Claim 6, page 3
11		Claim 8, page 4

In view of the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection based on Kuwabara '059.

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Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett S. Sylvester", written over a horizontal line.

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